

Message Text

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ORIGIN PM-04

INFO OCT-01 AF-08 EUR-12 EA-07 NEA-10 IO-13 ISO-00 CIAE-00

DODE-00 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01

SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 ACDA-07 ERDA-05 /109 R

DRAFTED BY PM/ISO: JEBURGESS:ML

APPROVED BY PM/ISO - GTCHURCHILL

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI

AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

AMEMBASSY LILONGWE

AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN

AMEMBASSY COLOMBO

AMEMBASSY DACCA

AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

AMEMBASSY DOHA

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMCONSUL HONG KONG

AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD

AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

AMEMBASSY KABUL

AMCONSUL KARACHI

AMEMBASSY KATHMANDU

AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM

AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR

AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMEMBASSY MAPUTO

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

AMEMBASSY MANAMA

AMEMBASSY MANILA

AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO

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AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY MUSCAT
USMISSION NATO
AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI
AMEMBASSY PARIS
USLO PEKING
AMEMBASSY PORT LOUIS
AMEMBASSY PRETORIA
AMEMBASSY RANGOON
AMEMBASSY SANA
AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE
AMEMBASSY TANANARIVE
AMEMBASSY TEHRAN
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV
AMEMBASSY TOKYO
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
AMEMBASSY VICTORIA
AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON
INFO AMEMBASSY CAIRO
AMEMBASSY JIDDA
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY NAIROBI
USCINCEUR
COMSIXTHFLT
CINCUSNAVEUR
JCS WASHDC
USS GUAM
CINCLANT
CINCPAC
CINCPACFLT
COMIDEASTFOR

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 291131

MILITARY ADDEES ALSO FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MILI, KE, US

SUBJECT: INDIAN OCEAN DEPLOYMENT
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1. THE US NAVY WILL ANNOUNCE THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION IN
LONDON AT 1100 GMT ON 30 NOVEMBER 1976:

THE AMPHIBIOUS ASSAULT SHIP USS GUAM (LPH-9) AND THE GUIDED
MISSILE DESTROYER USS CLAUDE V. RICKETTS (DDG-5) ARE SCHED-
ULED TO TRANSIT THE SUEZ CANAL ON 1 DECEMBER FOR A PERIOD
OF ROUTINE OPERATIONS IN THE INDIAN OCEAN. THE TASK GROUP

WILL BE COMMANDED BY CAPT T.A. STANLEY, USN, WHO IS COM-MANDING OFFICER OF THE USS GUAM.

2. IF DEEMED APPROPRIATE, EMBASSIES MAY INFORM HOST GOVERN-MENTS ON LOW-KEY BASIS OF THIS DEPLOYMENT AFTER THE USN ANNOUNCEMENT.

3. FYI. THIS DEPLOYMENT WILL INCLUDE A PORT VISIT TO MOMBASA, KENYA IN RECOGNITION OF THE 13TH ANNIVERSARY OF KENYA'S INDEPENDENCE. AT THE INVITATION OF THE GOVERNMENT OF KENYA, AV-8 HARRIER AIRCRAFT CARRIED ON BOARD GUAM WILL CONDUCT A CEREMONIAL FLY-BY AS PART OF THE 12 DECEMBER INDEPENDENCE DAY CELEBRATIONS IN NAIROBI. THESE DETAILS

WILL BE THE SUBSTANCE OF A LATER ANNOUNCEMENT THAT HAS BEEN COORDINATED CAREFULLY WITH THE GOVERNMENT OF KENYA AND SHOULD NOT BE PREMATURELY DISCLOSED BY ADDRESSEES TO HOST GOVERNMENTS. END FYI.

4. AFTER THE 30 NOVEMBER USN ANNOUNCEMENT HAS BEEN MADE, THE FOLLOWING Q'S AND A'S ARE APPROVED FOR USE BY ADDRESSEES ON AN IF-ASKED BASIS: QUOTE Q.1. IS THIS THE FIRST TIME THAT US SHIPS HAVE TRANSITTED THE SUEZ CANAL SINCE IT RE-OPENED? A.1. NO. SHIPS DEPLOYING TO THE MIDDLE EAST FORCE HAVE TRANSITTED THE SUEZ CANAL SINCE ITS REOPENING.

Q.2. DOES THIS DEPLOYMENT MEAN AN INCREASED US PRESENCE IN THE INDIAN OCEAN?

A.2. NO. THIS DEPLOYMENT CONFORMS TO A USG POLICY TO PERIODICALLY OPERATE A VARIETY OF SHIPS IN THE INDIAN OCEAN.

Q. 3. HOW MANY QUOTE COMBAT UNQUOTE MARINES WILL BE EMBARKED
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IN GUAM?

A. 3. ONLY MARINE AVIATION, AVIATION SUPPORT AND A MODEST MARINE SECURITY DETACHMENT WILL BE EMBARKED IN GUAM FOR THIS VISIT.

Q.4. WILL EITHER SHIP CARRY NUCLEAR WEAPONS?

A. 4. IT IS A LONG-STANDING POLICY OF THE USG TO NEITHER CONFIRM NOR DENY THE PRESENCE OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS.

Q. 5. DOES THIS DEPLOYMENT INVOLVE ANY QUOTE ARMS SELLING UNQUOTE ASPECTS?

Q. 5. NO.

Q.6. WHAT ARE THE JET AIRCRAFT PARKED ON THE GUAM'S FLIGHT-DECK AND WHY?

A. 6. THE AIRCRAFT ARE USMC AV-8 HARRIER VTOL JET AIRCRAFT. THE GUAM IS THE SHIP THAT WAS USED DURING THE MANY MONTHS OF EVALUATING THE HARRIER AND ITS CREW IS QUALIFIED FOR HARRIER OPERATIONS. UNQUOTE . DECONTROL 13 DECEMBER 1976. ROBINSON

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: GUAM USS, CLAUDE V RICKETTS USS, NAVAL SHIPS, MILITARY VISITS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 29 NOV 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: CunninFX
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976STATE291131
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: JEBURGESS:ML
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760443-0302
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t1976116/aaaaafdy.tel
Line Count: 178
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ORIGIN PM
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 4
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: CunninFX
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 10 NOV 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <10 NOV 2003 by GarlanWA>; APPROVED <30 AUG 2004 by CunninFX>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: INDIAN OCEAN DEPLOYMENT CONFIDENTIAL CONFIDENTIAL
TAGS: MILI, KE, US, XO
To: ABU DHABI ADDIS ABABA BANGKOK MULTIPLE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006